

Aiken

Aiken Standard  
Aiken, SC  
Circ. 17050  
From Page:  
2  
5/20/2007  
66000



# 135 Program gives out produce vouchers to senior citizens

By **HALEY HUGHES**  
Staff writer

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program, sponsored by the Aiken/Barnwell Community Action Agency, will be issuing free coupons for fruits and vegetables on five separate occasions to low-income seniors.

Senior citizens ages 60 and older are invited to attend one of the locations this month to receive the coupons that may be used to purchase fresh produce at local participating farmers' markets.

"This is our third year to do it," said Dorothy Moyers, RSVP director. "This

year it officially becomes a federal program. People start to call in January (for this)."

The first round of coupons will be issued at the H. Odell Weeks Activities Center at 1700 Whiskey Rd. on Monday, May 21, from 9 a.m. until noon. Coupons will also be given away at Aiken/Barnwell Community Action at 291 Beaufort St. that same day from 2 to 4 p.m.

"We give out five \$5 checks," Moyers said.

The checks may be used at participating farmers' markets from May through Oct. 15.

The Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition

## Want to go?

Coupons will be issued at the following dates and times:

- |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ► <b>Monday, May 21</b>          |                                |
| H. Odell Weeks Activities Center | 9 a.m. to noon                 |
| Aiken/Barnwell Community Action  | 2 to 4 p.m.                    |
| ► <b>Tuesday, May 22</b>         |                                |
| Our Lady of the Valley           | 9 a.m. to noon                 |
| Aiken/Barnwell Community Action  | 2 to 4 p.m.                    |
| ► <b>Wednesday, May 23</b>       |                                |
| H. Odell Weeks Activities Center | 9 a.m. to noon                 |
| Aiken/Barnwell Community Action  | 2 to 4 p.m.                    |
| ► <b>Thursday, May 24</b>        |                                |
| Wagener Town Hall                | 9 a.m. to noon                 |
| Aiken/Barnwell Community Action  | 2 to 4 p.m.                    |
| ► <b>Friday, May 25</b>          |                                |
| Aiken/Barnwell Community Action  | 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. |



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From Page:  
2  
5/20/2007  
66000



Program wants to supplement the diets of low-income seniors with fresh, nutritious produce and to support South Carolina's small farmers. The markets and roadside produce stands must fill out an application to participate in this program and display a certificate for customers to see.

RSVP has 700 coupons available to issue beginning Monday, May 21.

"So far every year we have not run out," Moyers said. "It is first-come, first-served."

Applications to receive coupons must

be submitted in person and are limited to one-time visit of five coupons per person. Proof of identity and residence in Aiken County is required.

Applicants must also meet household income limits. Information regarding the income of all household members is required to determine eligibility. Verification of the applicant's Social Security number must also be provided at the time of application.

For more information, contact Dorothy Moyers at 648-6836, ext. 223.